JUL 3 0 2004 PARADELIN TO

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Paul Re et al.

Serial No.:

10/812,609

Filing Date:

03/30/2004

Title:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR THE REPAIR OF

ARTICULAR CARTILAGE DEFECTS

Group Art Unit:

3732

Examiner:

Unknown

Attorney's Docket No.:

SCAN-1 CON

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 4, please replace the current reference to related application with the following reference to related applications:

-- Reference To Pending Prior Patent Applications

This is a continuation of pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/261,899, filed 10/01/02 by Paul Re et al. for APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR THE REPAIR OF ARTICULAR CARTILAGE DEFECTS, which in turn claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/326,293, filed 10/01/01 by Paul Re and Mark A. Johanson for APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR THE REPAIR OF ARTICULAR CARTILAGE DEFECTS (Attorney's Docket No. SCAN-1 PROV). --

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

July 28, 2004

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

James A. Sheridan

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

(SIGNATURE)

July 28, 2004

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

SCAN-1 CON